

### IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please add the following paragraph before the second full paragraph on Page 3:

--Wood products, specifically wood commonly used in construction including 1" x 4" x 12" pine and composite wood materials, such as plywood, were treated with different concentrations of sodium silicate - 40% ( $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{SiO}_2$ ) also known as water glass to test the hypothesis that water glass would make these products flame retardant. Water glass is readily available, is relatively cheap and virtually non-toxic. It can be applied to wood at industrial wood-preserving operations and can be easily applied to the homeowner. The sodium silicate will enter the voids in the wood, and harden into glass.--